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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Takayasu TANIGUCHI et al.**

Art Unit: **3761**

Application Number: **10/552,152**

Examiner: **Melanie Jo Hand**

Filed: **October 7, 2005**

Confirmation Number: **9203**

For: **WATER-ABSORBING RESIN COMPOUND**

Attorney Docket Number: **053170**  
Customer Number: **38834**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1)/(e)(1)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 26, 2008

Sir:

Applicants direct the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. A copy of each non - U.S. document is attached.

Document 1-3 are cited in a Supplementary European Search Report of a corresponding European application. A copy of the Search Report is also attached.

WO 98/20915, listed on the Search Report, is corresponding to U.S. Patent No. 6,277,772, which was submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 7, 2005.

This Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is being submitted after issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to issuance of either a final official action or a Notice of Allowance.

Application No.: 10/552,152  
Art Unit: 3761

Information Disclosure Statement under 1.97(c)(1)  
Attorney Docket No.: 053170

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS. A copy of the foreign communication citing the documents is attached.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**



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Enclosures: Limited Recognition  
PTO/SB/08  
Foreign Communication  
3 Documents



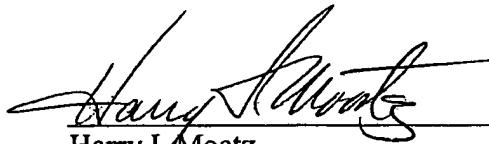
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